

Message Text

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OSD:AMB. KOMER (SUBSTANCE)

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LIMDIS

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TAGS: NATO, PORG, MPOL

SUBJECT:EAST-WEST STUDY AND LTDP -- CANADIAN LINKAGE

REFS: A. USNATO 2595; B. USNATO 2524; C. USNATO 2159

1. AT REQUEST OF CANADIAN EMBASSY, DEPUTY ASSISTANT
SECRETARY GOODBY ON MARCH 14 MET WITH CANADIAN DCM MATHIEU
AND POLITICAL COUNSELOR NUTTING. CANADIANS ELABORATED
THEIR VIEWS ON LINKAGE (REF A) WITH HEAVY EMPHASIS ON
LOGIC OF EAST-WEST STUDY PROVIDING BASIS FOR HEADS OF
GOVERNMENT TO THEN DECIDE KIND OF DEFENSE POSTURE THE
ALLIANCE NEEDS IN THE LONG TERM, AND HOW TO ACHIEVE IT.
CANADIANS SAID THEY THEREFORE ENVISAGE A RATHER GENERAL SET
OR SETS OF CONCLUSIONS COMING OUT OF THE LTDP DISCUSSION
IN WASHINGTON; CONCLUSIONS OR RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH WOULD
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BE AN ULLUSTRATIVE BLUEPRINT FOR THE FUTURE RATHER THAN
A DETAILED PROGRAMMATIC SET OF IMPROVEMENTS FOR CLEAR
NATIONAL COMMITMENT. IDEA OF INTRODUCING EAST-WEST INTO
REINFORCED EWG FORUM WAS ONLY ONE WAY TO ACHIEVE THE
NECESSARY LINKAGE. OTTAWA WAS NOT WEDDED TO THIS PROPOSED
MEANS.

2. GOODBY SAID THAT IN A GENERAL SENSE THE LINKAGE IDEA
COULD PROBABLY BE ACCOMMODATED. HE NOTED THAT WE ALREADY

HAVE A PART I AND PART II OF THE EAST-WEST STUDY
AVAILABLE FOR CONSIDERATION AND WHICH WE SHOULD
RIGHTLY BE AWARE OF AS WE PURSUE IN PARALLEL THE
LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM. IT WAS ALREADY CLEAR,
FOR EXAMPLE, THAT FUTURE TRENDS IN THE USSR WILL
REQUIRE MAINTENANCE OF A STRONG NATO DEFENSE. THIS
APPROACH SHOULD PROVIDE A GOOD BASIS FOR CROSS
FERTILIZATION BETWEEN THESE TWO IMPORTANT BUT SEPARATE
INITIATIVES.

3. GOODBY THEN MAKE THE POINT OF THE NEED FOR A
PROGRAMMATIC AND SPECIFIC SET OF LTDP ACTIONS, AND
FURTHER, CHALLENGED THE APPROPRIATENESS OF RAISING
THE EAST-WEST STUDY IN EWG.

4. AMBASSADOR KOMER SUBSEQUENTLY MADE POINTS SIMILAR
TO THOSE ABOVE WITH CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVES ON MARCH 15,
EMPHASIZING OUR ASPIRATIONS FOR HIGH QUALITY LTDP
COMMITMENT EMERGING FROM THE WASHINGTON SUMMIT.

5. MISSION SHOULD DRAW ON PARAS 2 AND 3 ABOVE IN ANY
DISCUSSIONS OR IN RESPONSE TO QUERIES BY DELEGATIONS
ON THIS SUBJECT.

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6. FOREGOING DRAFTED PRIOR TO SEEING NATO 2670 (PARA 2).
WE WOULD NOT OPPOSE THE SVART IDEA OF A GENERAL COVER
NOTE BUT WISH TO RE-EMPHASIZE STRONGLY THE INADVISABILITY
OF EAST-WEST STUDY DISCUSSIONS DURING NEXT WEEK'S EWG
MEETINGS.

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